

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:
Jeff Estensen, Area Management Biologist
Dayna Green, Asst. Area Management Biologist
Phone: (907) 949-1320
Fax: (907) 949-1830

Lower Yukon Area Office
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Emmonak, Alaska 99581
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2012 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 2

Fall Announcement # 2, District 1 Commercial Period 1

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The Yukon Area will begin Fall Season management in the lower river districts on July 16. Based on the 2012 summer chum salmon run, the projected fall chum salmon run size is greater than 800,000 fish. This level of abundance should be adequate to meet escapement and subsistence priorities and provide for commercial harvest. Both summer and fall chum salmon are currently entering the river in low numbers. Hence, commercial fishing in the lower river at this transition time would likely harvest a mixture of both stocks.

District Y-1

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in the **Coastal Set Net Only Area** of District Y-1 on Monday, July 16 from 10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. This will be a 12-hour commercial fishing period for the **Coastal Set Net Only Area** with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

The remainder of District Y-1 will be open to commercial fishing on Monday, July 16 from 1:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

For the entire District Y-1, no Chinook salmon can be sold during this commercial opening. Fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or use them for subsistence purposes. **Chinook salmon caught but not sold must be reported on fish tickets.**

The department is reminding fishermen who are intending to fish in the **Set Net Only Area** of District Y-1 that they are required to register prior to commercial fishing during the fall season in District Y-1. Registration can be completed by contacting the Emmonak Fish and Game office or registration forms will also be posted in local District Y-1 community Post Offices. After the

first commercial period of the fall season, regulations require a 72-hour waiting period to transfer into and out of the **Set Net Only Area**. The waiting period begins once you have notified the department of your intentions to transfer. For those individuals who are intending to fish in the remainder of District Y-1, no special registration is required and those fishermen will be registered to the district where their first delivery is made.

In Districts Y-1 and Y-2, subsistence salmon fishing is now open during the fall season for 7 days per week except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after each commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches. In District Y-1 subsistence salmon fishing will close at 10:00 p.m. Sunday, July 15, and reopen at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 17.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 949-1731 or 1-866-479-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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